United States Department of Agriculture **National Agricultural Service**

Missouri
Final 2012 Production Report

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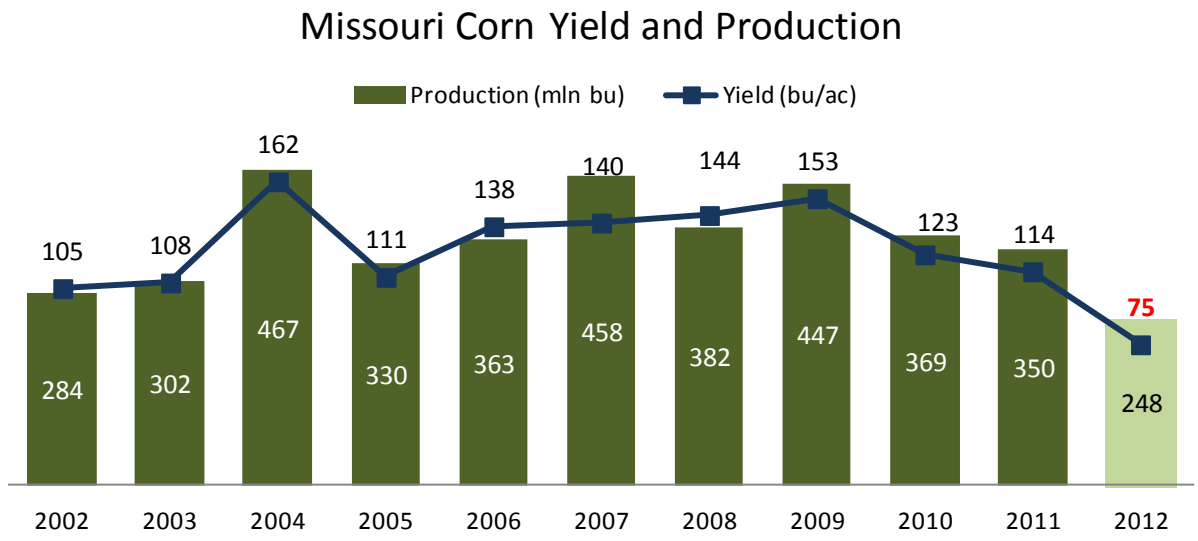
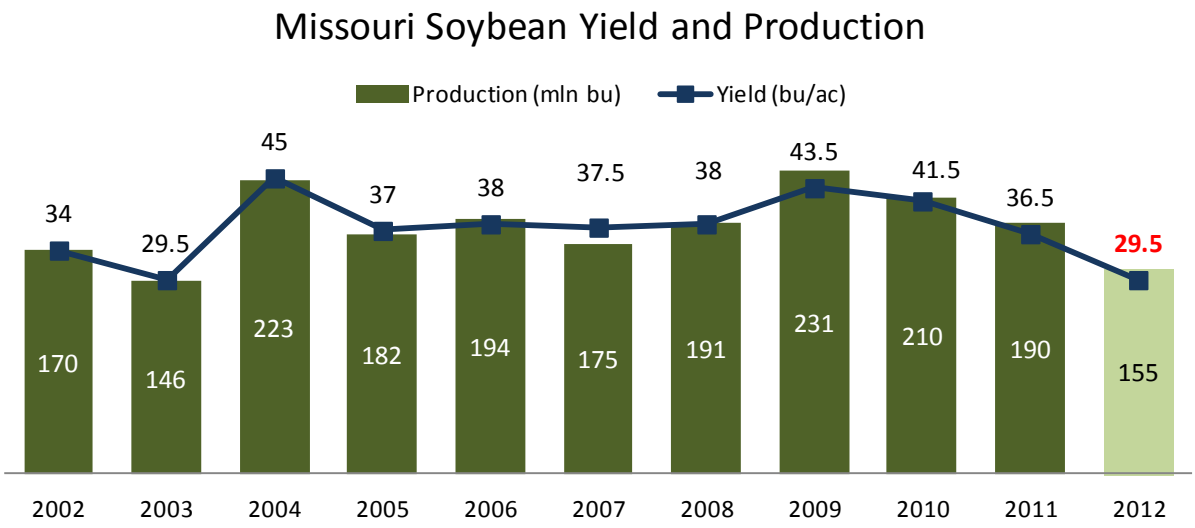
Corn Production at 248 Million Bushels

Missouri produced an estimated 248 million bushels of corn in 2012, the least since the 247 million bushels in 1999. The drought reduced yield was 75 bushels per acre, the lowest since 51 bushels per acre in the drought year of 1983. This came off 3.6 million acres of corn planted, the highest corn acreage in the state since 1960. Of these acres, 3.3 million were harvested for grain. Another 220 thousand acres were harvested for silage, the most since 1983. The remaining 80 thousand acres were either baled or abandoned.



Soybean Production 155 Million Bushels

The remnants of Hurricane Isaac bought rains to the state at the end of August. These rains and subsequent September rains helped soybean pod fill across much of the state. The result was an estimated 155.2 million bushels of soybeans produced. Though the lowest total since 2003, the soybean crop faired better than originally thought. The yield, at 29.5 bushels per acre was also the lowest since 2003. There were 5.4 million acres of soybeans planted in 2012; 5.26 million acres were harvested. There were 140 thousand acres not harvested, the same as last year when flooding was the cause. Many soybeans planted behind wheat were never harvested.



710 Thousand Bales of Cotton Produced

With much of the cotton in the state having access to irrigation, the drought had a smaller impact on cotton production in the Bootheel. Missouri produced an estimated 710 thousand 480 pound bales of cotton in 2012. The yield, at 1,033 pound per acre was above 1,000 for only the fourth time. The drought's effects on dryland cotton were noticeable in the 20 thousand acres of cotton planted but not harvested. This was the biggest loss of cotton acres since 1981. A total of 350 thousand acres were planted.

Sorghum for Grain Production was 3.2 Million Bushels

Sorghum suffered from the drought. As with corn, the yield, 58 bushels per acre, was the lowest in many years; 1983 was the last time sorghum yield was that low. However, due to an increase in acres harvested for grain to 55 thousand, production, at 3.19 million bushels, was actually higher than last year. There were 65 thousand acres planted. In addition to the 55 thousand harvested for grain another 6 thousand were harvested for silage. The yield for silage was 8 tons per acre.

Rice Yield at an All Time High

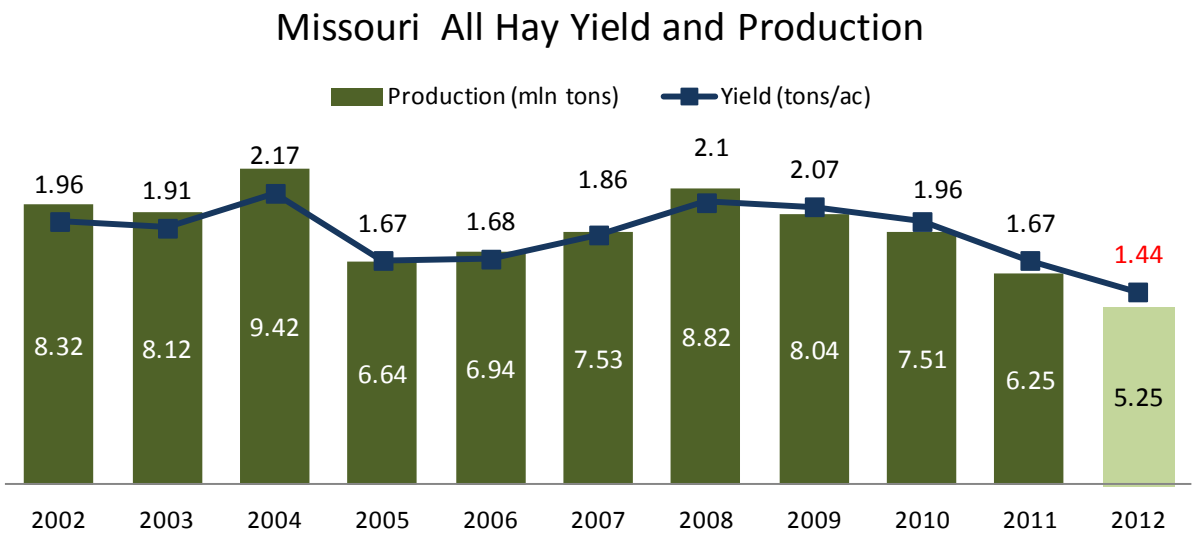
Rice yield, at 6,990 pounds per acre, surpassed the previous record of 6,900 pounds per acre in 2007. The high yield, along with a large increase of acres planted and harvested over last year's flood affected crop, caused production to increase by 49 percent over 2011. Planted acres increased by 37 thousand to 180 thousand while harvested acres increased by 49 thousand to 177 thousand. Last year's flooding resulted not only in less acres planted but more planted acres left unharvested. Total rice production was 12.372 million hundredweight, or 619.6 thousand tons. Though an increase over 2011, it is still well below the record 16.254 million hundredweight in 2010 when 251 thousand acres were harvested.

Hay Production Drops

Total hay production for Missouri decreased by almost a million tons to 5.254 million tons. This is the lowest hay production for the state since the drought year of 1988 when 5.088 million tons were produced. Production came off of 3.66 million acres harvested, the smallest harvested acreage since 1997. The average yield for the state was 1.44 tons per acre.

There were 260 thousand acres of **alfalfa hay** harvested. The average alfalfa yield was 1.9 tons per acre. This was the first time since 1955 that the average yield was below 2 tons per acre. Estimated production was 494 thousand tons.

Hay, excluding alfalfa, was harvested from 3.4 million acres with an average yield of 1.4 tons. The total production was 4.76 million tons.



Wheat Crop Best in Nine Years

As reported in September, the 2012 Missouri wheat crop is estimated at 39.3 million bushels, the most since 2008. This year's early and warm spring helped the crop to yield 57 bushels per acre, the second highest yield recorded for the state behind the 61 bushels per acre in 2003. The final estimate for wheat acres planted was 790 thousand acres, the same as last year. Harvested acres are estimated at 690,000, 10 thousand more than 2011. The wheat crop was harvested early enough so that it was not affected by the drought.

U.S. Highlights: Corn for grain production is estimated at 10.8 billion bushels, up 1 percent from the November 1 forecast but 13 percent below 2011. The average yield in the United States is estimated at 123.4 bushels per acre. This is up 1.1 bushels from the November forecast but 23.8 bushels below the 2011 average yield of 147.2. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 87.4 million acres, down slightly from the November forecast but up 4 percent from 2011.

Sorghum grain production in 2012 is estimated at 247 million bushels, down 4 percent from the November 1 forecast but up 15 percent from 2011. Planted area is estimated at 6.24 million acres, up 14 percent from last year. Area harvested for grain, at 4.96 million acres, is up 26 percent from 2011. Average grain yield, at 49.8 bushels per acre, is down 1.3 bushels from the previous forecast and down 4.8 bushels from last year.

Rice: Production in 2012 is estimated 199 million cwt, up slightly from the previous forecast and 8 percent above 2011. Planted area is estimated at 2.70 million acres, up slightly from 2011. Area harvested, at 2.68 million acres, is up 2 percent from the previous crop year. The average yield for all United States rice is estimated at a record high 7,449 pounds per acre, up 32 pounds from the previous forecast and 382 pounds above the 2011 yield.

Soybean production in 2012 totaled 3.01 billion bushels, up 1 percent from the November 1 forecast but down 3 percent from 2011. United States production is the seventh largest on record. The average yield per acre is estimated at 39.6 bushels, 0.3 bushel above the November 1 forecast but 2.3 bushels below last year's yield. Harvested area is up 3 percent from 2011 to 76.1 million acres and is the third highest on record.

All cotton production is estimated at 17.0 million 480-pound bales, down 1 percent from last month but up 9 percent from 2011. The United States yield is estimated at 866 pounds per acre, up 73 pounds from the December 1 forecast and up 76 pounds from last year. Harvested area, at 9.43 million acres, is down 10 percent from last month and down fractionally from last year.

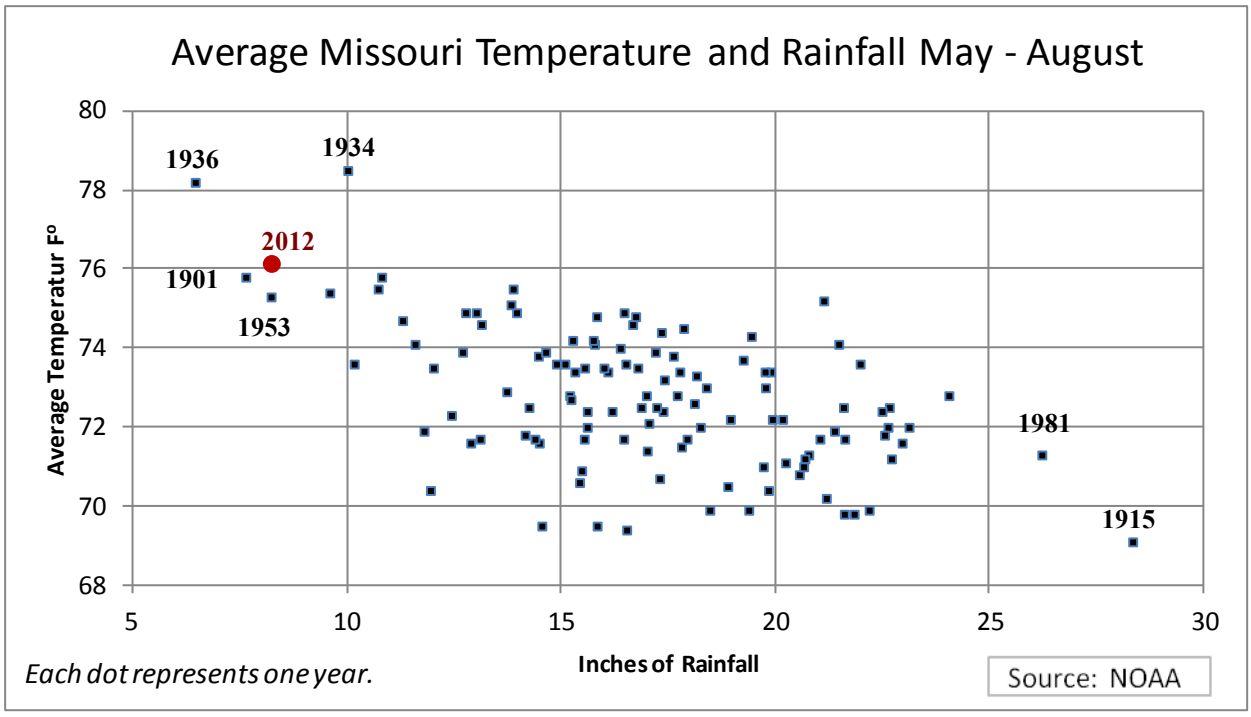
Link to U.S. report:

http://usda01.library.cornell.edu/usda/current/CropProdSu/CropProdSu-01-11-2013.pdf

Survey procedures: The estimates in this report are based primarily on surveys conducted the first two weeks of December. The December Agricultural Survey (DAS) is a probability survey that includes a sample of over 83,000 farm operators selected from a list of producers that ensures all operations in the United States have a chance to be selected. These operators were contacted by mail, internet, telephone, or personal interview to obtain information on crop acreage, yield and production for the 2012 crop year.

Magnitude and Impact of Drought

The 2012 drought was one of the severest droughts in Missouri since 1895, when weather records begin. For the four month May through August period, the average rainfall for the state was 8.25 inches making it the fourth driest since 1895. The average temperature was 76.1 degrees Fahrenheit, the third hottest on record behind 1934 and 1936. The chart below shows the May through August average temperature and rainfall each year since 1895 for Missouri. Each dot represents one year, rainfall is indicated on the horizontal axis and temperature on the vertical axis. Hot and drier years are to the top-left while cooler, wetter years are on the bottom-right.

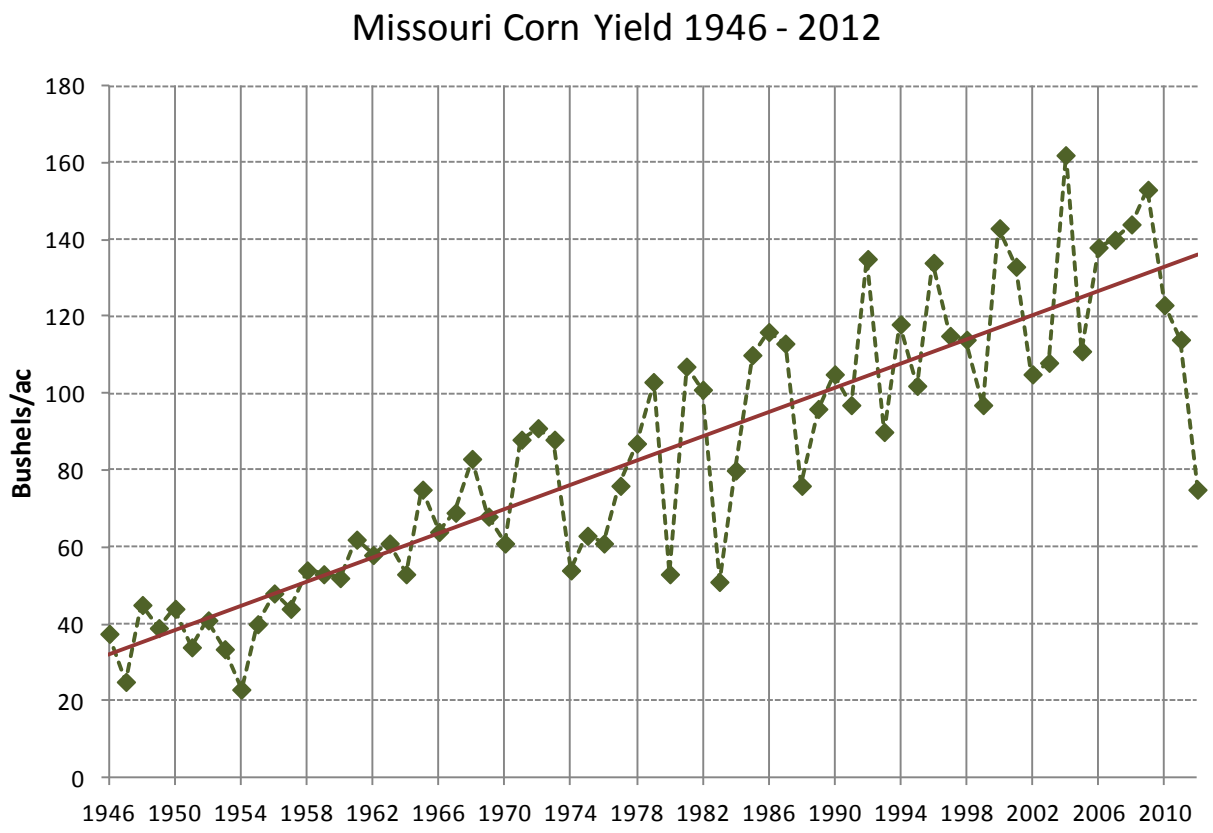


With the exception of wheat which was mostly harvested by mid-June, all non irrigated crops were adversely affected. Corn, in particular, suffered greatly due to the intense heat wave that the state experienced as the much of the crop was pollinating, resulting in poor grain fill. The average state yield of 75 for 2012 was about half as what would have been expected in a year with close to normal temperatures and rain. (See chart next page.) Like corn, sorghum and hay also had yields lower than had been seen in many years.

Soybeans faired somewhat better as the rains in September helped to increase the weight of pods still maturing on the plant. Soybean yield, at 29.5, was about three-fourths of what would have been expected in a more normal year.

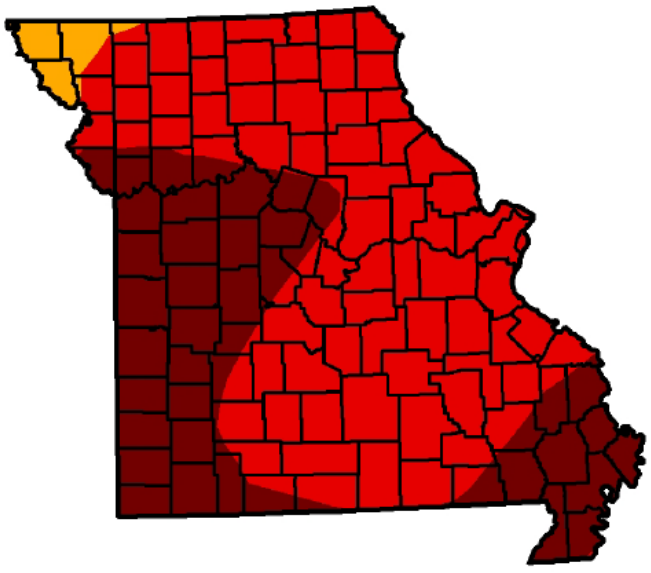
Cotton, with a majority being under irrigation, had a good year overall with a yield slightly better than the average yield over the last five years. However, the 20 thousand acres lost are not included in the yield calculation since they were not harvested. Rice, completely irrigated, had a record year in terms of yield.

The green dots on the graph below indicate the state average corn yield for the year. The red line is the trend, or expected, yield given normal conditions. Though 2012 yield was the farthest below the trend yield in absolute terms since 1945, as a percentage, 1954 was farther below by a slight amount.



Drought Monitor—August 28, 2012

Drought Maximum The drought reached a maximum in Missouri at the end of August. However, drought conditions persisted across the state for the rest of the year.



Intensity:

- *D0 Abnormally Dry*
- *D1 Drought - Moderate*
- *D2 Drought - Severe*
- *D3 Drought - Extreme*
- *D4 Drought - Exceptional*